

**Federal Emergency Management Agency
PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA)
for the McPherson Pier Relocation Project,
Ocean Springs, Mississippi
FEMA-1604-DR-MS**

Interested persons are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is proposing to assist the City of Ocean Springs, Mississippi in the funding of a flood mitigation project for the replacements of a public pier in Ocean Springs, Mississippi.

The former public pier located at foot of Martin Street in Ocean Springs, Mississippi, consisted of a small wooden pier that extended out into Biloxi Bay and provided recreational access to the for citizens and visitors of the city. Under the Proposed Action Alternative, the City of Ocean Springs proposes to relocate the pier to the south along Beach Front Boulevard to a new location where the city has sufficient space for parking. The proposed project involves the construction of a new pier with a fishing platform and two covered pavilions. The pier will be 530 feet long by 10 feet wide with a 90 foot long by 10 foot wide fishing platform. The pier will also include one 50 foot long by 30 foot wide pavilion and one 30 foot long by 10 foot wide pavilion.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Executive Order 11988, Executive Order 11990, and the implementing regulations of FEMA, an Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared to assess the potential impacts of the Proposed Action on the human and natural environment. The Draft EA summarizes the purpose and need, alternatives, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences for the proposed action. The Draft EA is available for comment and can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region4.shtm> or the City of Ocean Springs' website at www.oceansprings-ms.gov. The Draft EA may also be reviewed and copied at the following locations:

- City Hall
1018 Porter Avenue
Ocean Springs, Mississippi 39564
- Ocean Springs Municipal Library
525 Dewey Avenue
Ocean Springs, MS 39564

The comment period will conclude 15 days after the initial notice publication date of May 8, 2008. Written comments on the Draft EA can be mailed or faxed to the contact below. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA and associated Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will become final. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.

Michael Grisham
FEMA Environmental Liaison Officer
FEMA/State Transitional Recovery Officer
220 Popps Ferry Road, Building A South
Biloxi, MS 39565
FAX (228) 385-7884